GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2212
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
FLOODS AND FIRE IN COAL MINES
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tragic incidents occurred due to floods and fires in Coal Mines during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of lives lost in these incidents during the said period, mine-wise;

(c) the major causes for these tragic incidents and result of the findings of each of these incidents; and

(d) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): The number of tragic incidents due to flooding and fire in the coal mines of Coal India Limited involving fatality in each of the last three years are given as under:-

Year	1998	1999	2000
Incident of flooding	NIL	1	NIL
Incident of fire	NIL	1	1

(b): The number of workers who lost their lives in these incidents during the last three years are given as under mine-wise:-

Year	1998	1999	2000
Incident of flooding	NIL	Gondudih Colliery, BCCL-1	NIL
Incident of fire	NIL	Argada Amlohri OCP, Colliery, CCL- NCL-1	1

(C): The major causes of each of these tragic incidents are given as under:-

Year	1998	1999	2000
Incident of flooding	NIL	Gondudih Colliery, BCCL Inrush of water from dip gallery of higher rise into level gallery 3-4 hours after blasting.	NIL

Incident of fire	NIL	Argada Colliery, CCL After a cable fire, a pump khalasi fell down while escaping and was overcome by noxious gases. When he was rescued by rescue team and brought to hospital he was declared dead.	Amlohri OCP, NCL A mining sirdar was engulfed in hot particles when burning coal face fell during fire fighting operations in opencast workings.

(d): The remedial measure being taken by Coal India Limited to avoid recurrence of such incidents are as under:-

1. Dewatering dip galleries in advance.

2. Assessing danger of inundation in each and every mine prior to the monsoon and preparing and implementing annual action plans.

3. Check co-relation surveys to guard against inundation have been taken up.

4. Connecting all mine plans to national grid − has almost been completed.

5. Wherever required the thickness of barrier between adjacent mines have been proved by positive methods like drilling.

6 . Rigorous periodic(shift-wise/daily/weekly/monthly) physical inspection of working places, old workings, fire- stoppings/isolation stoppings for symptoms of heating by supervisory staff & officials.

7 . Monitoring environmental conditions in underground mines for early detection of heating by Co-detectors and hand held digital monitors, hygrometers etc.

8. CIL has identified 36 mines for installation of computerised continuous environmental telemonitoring systems. Out of these, seven such systems are already operating and order has been placed for six additional systems.

9. Programme has been taken up to provide Filter Self Rescuers(FSRs) to all workmen .

10. Conducting safety audits of mines and implementing recommendations thereof.

11. Thrust on training of work persons.